

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 ICA-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 L-03 HA-05
SP-02 /104 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER:JU
APPROVED BY IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER
IO/EX/IR - WVDENNING/KCARROLL
-----005388 210128Z /73

R 201959Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156552

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: DG M'BOW'S COMMENTS ON POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF
INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

REF: PARIS 19392

1. DEPT. IS PUZZLED BY DG'S APPARENTLY CONFLICTING
COMMENTS IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL. VASAK'S COUNTRY (FRANCE)
SCARCELY FITS M'BOW'S DESCRIPTION OF A "NEUTRAL", NON-
"MAJOR" MEMBER STATE. NEITHER IS PREVIOUS INCUMBENT'S
COUNTRY, CANADA, A "NEUTRAL" STATE.

2. ON OTHER HAND, ACTING LEGAL ADVISER PERRENOUD IS
SWISS NATIONAL, AND RUMOR WAS IN FACT CIRCULATING IN
UNESCO LEGAL AFFAIRS DIVISION SOME WEEKS AGO TO EFFECT
THAT M'BOW HAD IN MIND LEAVING PERRENOUD IN CHARGE AND
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NOT REPLACING LUSSIER. THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT
WITH DIVISION'S LOSS OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINT UNIT WHICH,
PERM DEL WILL RECALL, VASAK HAD ASKED AMBASSADOR TORRES
TO URGE M'BOW TO TRANSFER IMMEDIATELY TO SOCIAL SCIENCE
SECTOR.

3. ANY LIGHT THAT PERM DEL CAN SHED ON THIS MATTER WOULD

BE APPRECIATED, AS WOULD YOUR ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY
OPPOSITION FROM OTHER MEMBER STATES TO SEPARATING HUMAN

RIGHTS AND PEACE FUNCTIONS. HUMAN RIGHTS IS OF MAJOR
INTEREST TO U. S. AND WITHOUT IT SOCIAL SCIENCE ADG WOULD
OBVIOUSLY HAVE LESS APPEAL. AT SAME TIME, WE ARE DEEPLY
DISAPPOINTED BY DG'S APPARENT REJECTION OF SALANS FOR
LEGAL POST AND WOULD APPRECIATE PERM DEL'S ADVICE AS TO
WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO GET M'BOW TO RECONSIDER. THIS
COMING SO CLOSLY ON HEELS OF LOSS OF DDG POST IS TOO
MUCH AND M'BOW SHOULD REALIZE THIS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE156552
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RDFORSTER:JU
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780257-0844
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780639/aaaabhnh.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 06914685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PARIS 19392
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2276553
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DG M'BOW'S COMMENTS ON POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS
TAGS: AORG, UNESCO
To: PARIS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/06914685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014